

21 JUN 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Colonel William Odom
National Security Council Staff
West Basement, White House 20500

FROM: Mr. Cord Meyer, Jr.
Special Assistant, Deputy Director of
Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Draft Terms of Reference for PRM 30

1. We have examined the Draft Terms of Reference for PRM 30 and have the following comments on it.
2. We agree with the points to be considered for the "Committee on Policy and Capabilities", Subgroup P/C-1. Because we feel that policy is involved here, we see no need for a CIA representative to serve on Subgroup P/C-1.
3. We suggest the following items for consideration under Subgroup P/C-2:
 - Organizational Capabilities
 - Military Capabilities
 - a. Conventional
 - b. Unconventional
 - Diplomatic Capabilities
 - Technical Capabilities
 - Physical Security Capabilities
 - Psychiatric/Psychological Capabilities

Classified by signer.
Exempt from General Declassification Schedule
of E.O. 11652. Exemption Category 5B(2).
Impossible to determine date of automatic
declassification.

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4. We agree with the items for consideration under Subgroup P/C-3, but believe that the overall heading should be simply "Recommendations to Improve;" because a valid assessment of costs and benefits will be difficult to achieve.

[redacted] who is Chief of the [redacted] in the Directorate of Operations, [redacted] will be the CIA representative on Subgroup P/C-3. We recommend that he be the chairman of this Subgroup.

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5. We agree entirely with the items for consideration by the "Committee on Organization". Our representative on this group will be Mr. Cord Meyer, Special Assistant to the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence. If Mr. Meyer is unable to attend, he will be represented by [redacted]

[redacted] We suggest that the CIA representative not chair this committee, since the role of CIA in this particular aspect of terrorism is one of providing information, rather than of assuming authority for the management of terrorist incidents.

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/s/ Cord Meyer Jr.

Cord Meyer, Jr.

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June 1, 1977

Presidential Review Memorandum/NSC-29

TO: The Vice President
The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense

ALSO: The Attorney General
The Director, Office of Management and Budget
The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
The Director of Central Intelligence
The Administrator, Energy Research and
Development Administration
The U.S. Representative to the United Nations
The Archivist of the United States
The Counsel to the President

SUBJECT: A Comprehensive Review of the Classification
System

In order to provide for greater openness in government while at the same time effectively protecting sensitive national security information, I direct that a new Executive Order be prepared to replace Executive Order 11652. This new order should establish the government's policies with respect to the classification, protection and declassification of national security information and material.

The new Executive Order should be prepared by an ad hoc committee co-chaired by a member of the National Security Council Staff and the Domestic Council Staff. This Committee should consider:

--How to provide for the maximum release of information to the American public on government activities and policies consistent with the need to protect sensitive national security information;

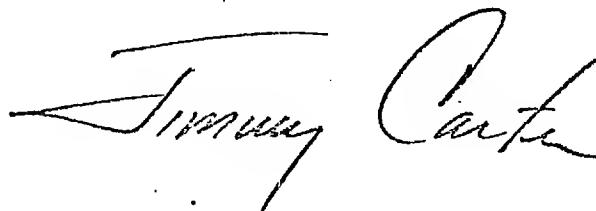
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- How to promote increased public access to this information through a more rapid and systematic declassification program;
- Overlaps between the new Executive Order and the Freedom of Information Act as amended and the Privacy Act;
- Which information requires protection and for how long and what criteria should be used in making this judgment;
- Which categories of classified material more than 20 years old could be declassified in bulk under appropriate guidelines;
- How the classification system can be simplified to make it more understandable and easier to implement;
- How unnecessary and duplicative practices and procedures can be eliminated, reducing expenses;
- Whether the Departments and Agencies should prepare classification and declassification guidelines for their employees;
- What kinds of disciplinary actions can be taken to prevent the misuse of the security classification system by government officials.

The ad hoc Committee should carefully consider how best to implement the provisions of the new Executive Order. In this respect they should examine the role and the effectiveness of the Interagency Classification Review Committee.

The new Executive Order should be ready for my signature by September 15, 1977.

This Presidential Review Memorandum supersedes National Security Study Memorandum 229.



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